

Ben Folds to Perform for Spring Weekend

Selection Was the Result of Student Input; Folds Garnered 70% Approval on Survey

By **Elijah Jordan Turner**
STAFF REPORTER

Twenty students in conjunction with the Student Activities Office have selected Ben Folds to headline this year's Spring Weekend concert on Saturday, Apr. 25. Leading up to the main event will be a new festival and a series of events coordinated by student groups.

Ben Folds was chosen based on a November survey, in which participants were asked to rate ten groups and singers based on their likelihood of attendance. Jason Mraz received the greatest number of positive responses (72 percent), but was unavailable for the end-of-April date. Folds received the second highest number of positive votes, with 70 percent of respondents indicating they would possibly, probably, or definitely attend the Ben Folds concert.

"We're excited about responding to the opinions of students," said Joshua Velasquez '08, who is in charge of publicity for Spring Weekend.

However, in an unscientific survey of students on the first floor of the Student Center on a Thursday night, most students had never heard of Ben Folds



COURTESY OF BEN FOLDS

Singer-songwriter Ben Folds is scheduled to perform for Spring Weekend on Sat. April 25. Folds, known for top-40 hits like *Brick* and *Rockin' The Suburbs*, will headline; the opening act is not yet decided.

or were indifferent to his pending performance.

"I'm a fan of his music," said Ted Tomlinson '09, "but I just don't think it lends itself to being performed live."

An opening act has not been chosen, but the planning team expects its selection to reach a different audience than Ben Folds.

The online poll was advertised to both the Undergraduate Association

and the Graduate Student Council, who forwarded it to their constituents, but response was primarily undergraduate (938 out of 1,015 stu-

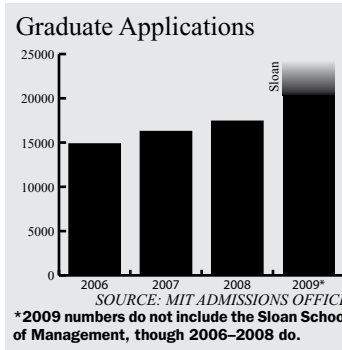
Spring Weekend, Page 11

Hard Times in Workplace Mean More Grad Apps

By **Meredith L. Lis**

As jobs get scarcer, several graduate departments at MIT are experiencing a jump in applications for the 2009 school year. Departments anticipate a drop in acceptance and enrollment, partially due to increased financial caution in the current recession.

The number of graduate student applications is expected to be 15 percent greater than last year's total, said McGregor Crowley '00, director of the graduate admissions process. This number does not include applicants to the Sloan School of Management, which has not yet re-



ported their data.

As of mid-January 20,322 appli-

Grad Applicants, Page 10

Clay, Reif, Stone Form Planning Task Force; 150-Member 3-Level Hierarchy Will Help

By **Robert McQueen**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

How is MIT reacting to the current economic situation? In a letter released to the MIT community on Monday, the MIT administration unveiled details of a new task force charged to reevaluate and recommend changes in MIT operations to improve financial efficiency.

The Institute-wide Planning Task

Force is charged with revealing and analyzing inefficiencies. With more than 150 Task Force members meeting weekly, Provost L. Rafael Reif hopes to collect ideas quickly. Preliminary recommendations will be selected by June 2009, and their implementation will run through October 2010, affecting the 2010-2011 academic year.

The Task Force is divided into

four areas: academic planning, administrative planning, student life, and revenue enhancement. Within these areas, smaller working groups will meet weekly to propose and discuss new ideas on specific aspects of MIT operations. In order to promote idea development, all working groups will be provided with infor-

Task Force, Page 10

Mandatory Dining is Gone for Ashdown Undergraduates

MIT has quietly discontinued a novel mandatory dining fee program in which approximately 50 undergraduates living in a dormitory were required to pay \$600 this fall and in return got free dinner five nights a week.

Undergraduate residents in Ashdown Hall (the Phoenix Group) no longer have to pay \$600 a month, and they no longer get free dinners.

Instead, like residents of many West Campus dormitories, they are now billed \$300 a semester and in return get half-price dinner at MIT dining halls. At Ashdown's dining hall, they pay \$4 for dinner.

The Phoenix Group are now members of the House Dining program, the closest thing MIT has to a meal plan. In the program, residents of McCormick Hall, Baker House, Next House, Simmons Hall, along with NW35 undergraduates, pay half price for meals purchased in any of the dining halls in any of those five dormitories.

Ashdown's dining hall offers all-you-can-eat dinners, making the hall the closest thing MIT has to a traditional college cafeteria. Dinner is served from 6-9 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday and from 6-8 p.m. on Thursdays.

Simmons Hall residents have also experimented with all-you-can-eat dinners, although those experiments have never been made permanent. An all-you-can-eat buffet in the Pritchett Dining Hall was tried in April 2007; shortly thereafter the dining hall, on the east side of campus, was closed for good.

—Michael McGraw-Herdeg

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massachusetts institute of technology

freshman admissions portal/community v. 2.0

1 LIFE + community at MIT 2 LEARNING research & academics 3 PULSE our mission & people 4 BLOGS our daily adventures 5 BEFORE stuff you can do now 6 APPLY how, when, where... 7 MIT + YOU mit in your area 8 YOU + MIT visiting us, tours, etc. 9 FINAID how to pay for MIT 10 info for PARENTS 11 info for SCHOOLS 12 mit admissions HOME

explore & discover mit

ATTACK of the PreFrosh

web community of the applicants to the Class of 2013

Our site is maintained by prefrosh, fair hacking. Because we don't know about we'd rather do some before we

"Looking Forward to the Future"

posted by Michelle Talmo February 12, 2009 | 0 Responses

"Senioritis"

posted by Enoch Kuo | Did bring up the subject? Oops. February 12, 2009 | 0 Responses

SCREENSHOTS FROM [HTTP://MYMIT.INFO](http://MYMIT.INFO)

Eight Class of 2013 applicants created <http://mymit.info>, a website spoofing the popular MIT Admissions blog site. The site has blogs from five applicants to the Class of 2013.

Ben Jones, the former MIT admissions officer who created the original mitadmissions.org, said on their site "You guys are brilliant. If I still worked at MIT, I'd fight to the death for you all in committee. Bravo!" Jones also told *The Tech* that he "was wholeheartedly impressed by their efforts — one of the coolest things I've seen in a long time. :-)"

Randall Munroe, creator of the popular XKCD web comic, also drew a special comic for the site (right).

The site became well-known earlier this week after a link was forwarded to many dormitory mailing lists. Colton Provias of Saltsburg, PA was the lead developer of the site.

PREDICTIONS FOR NEXT YEAR AT MIT BY RANDALL MUNROE

BOSTON CANCER RATE

SODIUM DROP WILL BE BRIEFLY REPLACED BY URANIUM DROP

THERE WILL BE 30% FEWER KILLER ROBOT RAMPPAGES.

BUT HOW CAN I PICK ONLY NINETEEN? IT'D BE SLACKING!

BOWING TO PRESSURE, MIT WILL REMOVE THE OPTION TO 1050MATOR.

DESPERATE TO ONE-UP PREVIOUS STUNTS, HACKERS WILL PUT THE DOME ON THE DOME.

THIRD EAST WILL FINALLY JUST EXPLODE.

SIX HOURS PER NIGHT? THAT'S NOT TOO BAD.

NO, NOT PER NIGHT.

WORLD & NATION

Attacks in Mosul and Karbala Kill 13

By Sam Dagher

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

A spate of attacks on Thursday, including the assassination of a Sunni Arab political leader in the violent northern city of Mosul, killed at least 13 Iraqis and left 39 wounded, security officials said.

The politician, Abdul-Karim al-Sharabi, was one of five Sunni leaders to be killed since Dec. 31 in or near Mosul, where tensions between Arabs and Kurds are high and Sunni insurgents remain firmly entrenched.

The deadliest attack on Thursday took place in Karbala, the holy Shi-ite city south of Baghdad, where tens of thousands of pilgrims have been massing to commemorate Arbreen, which marks the end of the mourning period for Imam Hussein, grandson of the prophet Muhammad.

A bomb inside a propane gas canister exploded on a pedestrian-only road teeming with pilgrims not far from Imam Hussein's shrine, killing at least eight people and wounding 35, according to an Interior Ministry official in Baghdad who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

China Arrests 12 People After Fire at TV Tower

By Sharon Lafraniere

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING

In a spate of arrests announced Thursday, Beijing officials put the blame for a Monday fire that destroyed part of the government's spectacular new media complex squarely on the shoulders of the state-run television network.

The police detained 12 people, including the chief of construction for the new headquarters of China Central Television, or CCTV, and eight employees of the firm the broadcaster hired to put on an illegal fireworks show that the authorities said ignited the blaze.

The fire gutted a nearly completed 520-foot-high futuristic skyscraper that was part of CCTV's new \$1.1 billion headquarters, sometimes described as an architectural symbol of China's rising power. One firefighter died, and seven people were injured.

Many questions remain about the fire, including how fireworks could have ignited such an inferno and why the flames seemed to spread unchecked through a modern tower, designed by a world-renowned architect, that would presumably have been outfitted with state-of-the-art fire retardant systems.

Lawmakers Move Quickly On Stimulus Vote

By David M. Herszenhorn

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Congressional leaders moved swiftly on Thursday to schedule votes in the House and Senate on the \$789 billion economic stimulus plan while lawmakers spent much of the day hammering out the final details of the legislation.

Even as clerks were still drafting the measure, a broad array of industries and interest groups scrambled to calculate winners and losers in the final stimulus deal and in some cases engaged in fierce, down-to-the-wire lobbying efforts for further adjustments.

On some issues there was confusion among top White House and congressional officials over whether certain provisions were included in the bill — an embarrassment for House Democrats who had promised at least 48 hours of public review before a vote.

Among the last-minute changes on Thursday was a slight expansion of a tax break for businesses favored by Senate Republicans who provided crucial votes for the bill. The provision lets companies claim refunds by applying current losses to prior profitable years.

Another late insertion was a \$3.2 billion tax break specifically intended for General Motors that allows it to claim refunds for taxes paid in earlier, profitable years.

Obama's Second Choice to Run Commerce Withdraws

By Jeff Zeleny

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Sen. Judd Gregg of New Hampshire abruptly withdrew Thursday as the nominee to be commerce secretary, saying he had "irresolvable conflicts" with President Barack Obama over his economic stimulus plan and a concern over what many fellow Republicans believe is the politicization of the 2010 census.

The departure of Gregg is the latest setback to a White House that has struggled to fill several top positions and fulfill the president's pledge to build a bipartisan administration. He is the third prospective Cabinet secretary — the second at the Commerce Department — to remove his name from consideration.

"I'm a fiscal conservative, as everybody knows, a fairly strong one," Gregg, a Republican, told reporters at an afternoon news conference in the Capitol. "And it just became clear to me that it would be very difficult, day in and day out, to serve in this Cabinet or any Cabinet."

"It was my mistake, obviously, to say yes," he added.

But the political fallout is left to

the White House, which now has a string of appointees who have stepped aside over vetting problems, unpaid taxes or philosophical differences with Obama. Since the president took office last month, not a week has gone where the White House has not found itself responding to a personnel crisis.

Gregg said he alerted the president to his decision "several days ago," but several administration officials said the senator's withdrawal took them off guard.

The White House sought to contain the political fallout from losing another high-level appointee, issuing a terse statement and pointing out that Gregg had pledged to "support, embrace and move forward with the president's agenda."

Obama, who was traveling in Illinois, told reporters that he had spoken to Gregg on Wednesday, but he had not known that Gregg intended to withdraw until Thursday. He said Gregg had had a "change of heart," but added that he intended to keep his pledge to have a bipartisan Cabinet.

"I am going to keep working at this," Obama said, noting that the American people are "desperate" for

Democrats and Republicans to work together.

The appearance by Gregg at his news conference in the Capitol was one of the few times he had been seen in public all week. Senators assumed that he was preparing for his confirmation hearings, but he was huddled with his wife, Kathy, and a small circle of advisers trying to determine how he could undo his decision last week to join the Obama administration.

He did not vote on the administration's \$789 billion economic stimulus plan the first time it came up in the Senate. He declined to tell reporters Thursday how he would vote on the bill when it comes before the Senate for final passage, but he signaled his disagreement with the policy by criticizing the plan in his withdrawal statement.

"It has become apparent during this process that this will not work for me as I have found that on issues such as the stimulus package and the Census there are irresolvable conflicts for me," Gregg said. He added, "We are functioning from a different set of views on many critical items of policy."

New Research Focuses on Cure for Common Cold

By Nicholas Wade

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Curing the common cold, one of medicine's most elusive goals, may now be in the realm of the possible.

Researchers said Thursday that they had decoded the genomes of the 99 strains of common cold virus and developed a catalog of the virus' vulnerabilities.

"We are now quite certain that we see the Achilles heel, and that a very effective treatment for the common cold is at hand," said Stephen B. Liggett, an asthma expert at the University of Maryland and co-author of the finding.

Besides alleviating the achy, sniffly misery familiar to everyone, a true cold-fighting drug could be a godsend for the 20 million people who suffer from asthma and the millions of others with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The common

cold virus is thought to trigger half of all asthma attacks.

Even so, it might be difficult to kindle the interest of pharmaceutical companies. While the new findings are "an interesting piece of science," said Dr. Glenn Tillotson, an expert on antiviral drugs at Viropharma in Exton, Pa., he noted that the typical cost of developing a new drug is now \$700 million, "with interminable fights with financiers and regulators."

Because colds are mostly a minor nuisance, drug developers say, people would not be likely to pay for expensive drugs. And it would be hard to get the Food and Drug Administration to approve a drug with any serious downside for so mild a disease.

Carl Seiden, president of Seiden Pharmaceutical Strategies and a longtime industry analyst and consultant, said industry might be loath

to wade in because Relenza and Tamiflu — two drugs that ameliorated flu but did not cure it — were huge commercial disappointments.

The industry has also learned in recent years that turning a genetic discovery into a marketable drug is far harder than once thought.

Still, if the discovery could lead to an effective drug to treat the common cold, "that's a big deal," Seiden said.

Industry hurdles aside, perhaps the biggest reason the common cold has long defied treatment is that the rhinovirus has so many strains and presents a moving target for any drug or vaccine.

This scientific link in this chain of problems may now have been broken by a research team headed by Liggett and Dr. Ann C. Palmenberg, a cold virologist at the University of Wisconsin.

WEATHER

Return to Winter

By Garrett P. Marino

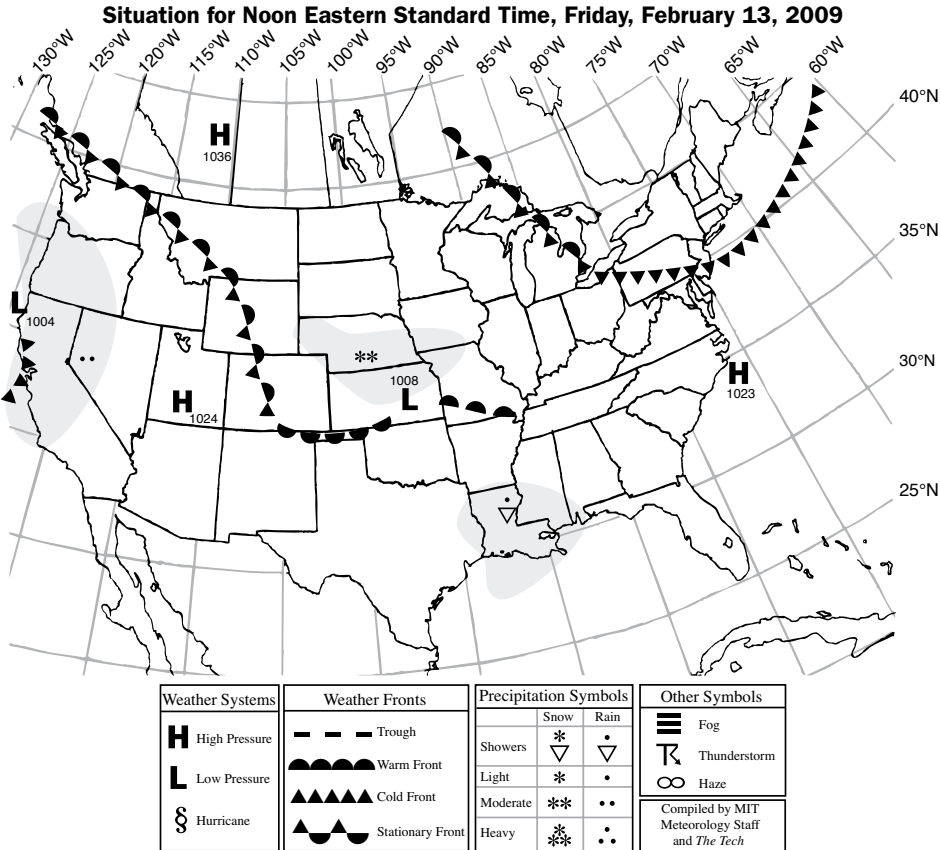
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

After not cracking 40°F (4°C) for the entire month of January, February in contrast has brought us a taste of spring so far. Maximum temperatures during the past two days have been in the 50s°F, but don't expect that to last. A cold front moved through the area yesterday morning, ushering in more seasonable conditions. Where we had only a few showers with the frontal passage, parts of the South experienced severe weather and early-season tornadoes that killed several people.

Boston will return to winter temperatures once again and stay locked in a quiet pattern through the foreseeable future. Highs will generally be in the 30s°F with lows in the 20s. The good news is that spring is coming... temperatures warm by 10°F (6°C) every month for the next four months. So hang in there, warmth like we had on Wednesday is right around the corner!

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny and breezy. Highs near 35°F (2°C).
Tonight: Clear, with winds diminishing. Lows near 20°F (-7°C).
Saturday through Monday: Sunny with highs in the upper 30s°F (4°C). Lows in the lower 20s°F (-6°C).



Charting Bird Migrations by Using Tiny Backpacks

By **Cornelia Dean**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Birds are famous for airborne speed and endurance. Some have been clocked flying 60 mph or more. Others make annual migrations from Alaska to New Zealand, nonstop.

But for scientists, tracking birds as they perform those feats has been an intractable problem. Now researchers think they have cracked it with a novel device — a tiny bird backpack that contains sophisticated sensors and weighs less than a dime.

The new technology has opened up vast new possibilities for bird researchers. Already, it is yielding surprising findings — for example, that some birds fly even faster than previously thought. But its real importance, biologists say, is the opportunity to unlock mysteries of bird migration that could help preserve species threatened by habitat loss and climate change.

“We knew that purple martins went to Brazil and wood thrush went to Central America,” said Bridget J.M. Stutchbury, a biologist at York University in Toronto, who with colleagues fitted birds from the species with the sensors and mapped their migrations

last year. “But the details of how an individual gets there, what routes they take, how fast they fly, how often they stop to rest — these are the kinds of details we have never been able to have.”

The research, reported Friday in the journal *Science*, involved 34 birds, but only seven were recovered with their sensors. Still, the work “is an important step,” said David W. Winkler, an ornithologist at the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, where he said researchers were developing similar techniques. “This represents a whole new level of accuracy,” Winkler said.

The tracking system relies on instruments called solar geo-locators that collect and store data on where the birds are in relation to the sun. Researchers remove the sensors, download the information and calculate where the birds were, and when they were there.

“If the bird were on a hillside you’d get a slightly wrong time,” Stutchbury said. “If it were a cloudy day you would get a slightly wrong time. But these devices are accurate enough, within 5 or 10 kilometers,” about 3 to 6 miles.

Bird migration is a subject of fascination for scientists and the public alike. Jacques Perrin’s 2003 film, “Winged Migration,” which used remote control gliders and ultralight aircraft to follow birds as they traveled the globe, attracted a large cult following. But while much is known about where birds nest and where they spend the winter, figuring out how they get from point A to point B has been a challenge that, overall, researchers have been unable to meet, especially for small species like songbirds.

Researchers have tried banding birds’ legs, tracking flocks with radar and even using satellites, all to little avail. The new system was developed by engineers at the British Antarctic Survey for use tracking wandering albatrosses, birds that inhabit the waters around Antarctica.

But the wandering albatross is about the size of a large dog, Stutchbury said. For her research, she needed instruments small enough and light enough for a tiny songbird. Then, at a 2006 conference, the British researchers said they had miniaturized their sensors to 1.5 grams. “That for me was a magic number,” she said.

Pakistan Backtracks On Mumbai Terrorist Attacks

By **Salman Masood**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

Pakistan acknowledged for the first time on Thursday that parts of the Mumbai terrorist attacks were planned on its soil and said that six suspects were being held and awaiting prosecution.

The admission amounted to a significant about-face for the Pakistani government, which has long denied that any terrorist attacks against India, its longtime enemy, have originated in Pakistan.

Officials said as recently as Monday that they did not have enough evidence to link the Mumbai assault to Pakistan, and there have been signs of internal tensions in Pakistan over cracking down on Lashkar-e-Taiba, the Pakistan-based militant group that India and the United States have deemed responsible for the Nov. 26 attack on India’s financial capital.

Pakistani officials did not explicitly name Lashkar as the organizer of the attacks on Thursday, but they did single out as suspects two people who are known to be connected to the group.

The formal acknowledgment of a Pakistani role came on the final day of a visit to the country by Richard C. Holbrooke, President Barack Obama’s special envoy to the region, who raised the issue with top Pakistani government officials, according to an official familiar with the conversations.

Though Pakistani officials denied the announcement was linked to Holbrooke’s visit, the Obama administration has made clear that lowering hostilities between India and Pakistan is a key part of a regional solution to the war in Afghanistan, which Holbrooke is in the region to assess.

India called Pakistan’s admission a “positive development,” but said that Pakistan must still take steps to dismantle the “infrastructure of terrorism.” In Washington, the State Department spokesman, Robert A. Wood, said: “I think it shows that Pakistan is serious about doing what it can to deal with the people that may have perpetrated these attacks.”

Both India and the United States have put strong pressure on Pakistan for some concession regarding

the Mumbai attacks, which American officials feared were distracting Pakistan from the task of battling Taliban and Qaida militants who have bases inside Pakistani territory.

Despite seemingly overwhelming evidence presented by India, with the help of American and British investigators, top Pakistani officials had repeatedly raised doubts about the identity of the attackers and the links to Pakistan-based militant leaders.

Finally, on Thursday, as Holbrooke left Pakistan for Afghanistan, Rehman Malik, the senior security official in the Interior Ministry, gave the fullest public account so far of Pakistan’s investigation.

“Some part of the conspiracy has taken place in Pakistani,” he said in a televised news briefing. “I want to assure our nation, I want to assure the international community, that we mean business.”

He emphasized Pakistan’s commitment to prosecuting the attackers and, unusually for a government official here, expressed solidarity with India.

Willem Kolff, Inventor of Kidney And Heart Machines, Dies at 97

By **Sandra Blakeslee**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Dr. Willem J. Kolff, a resourceful Dutch physician who invented the first artificial kidney in a rural hospital during World War II, using sausage casings and even orange juice cans, and went on to build the first artificial heart, died Wednesday at his home in Newtown Square, Pa. Kolff, whose work has been credited with saving millions of lives, was 97.

His death was announced by the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, where Kolff was distinguished professor emeritus of bioengineering, surgery and medicine. He died of natural causes, his son Therus said.

Kolff, who immigrated to the United States in 1950, was widely regarded as the father of artificial organs, having proved that biomedical engineers could build all sorts of artificial organs for keeping patients alive. His artificial kidney evolved into modern dialysis machines for cleansing the blood of people whose kidneys have failed, preserving countless lives.

His membrane oxygenator, which provided a way to add oxygen to blood

as it passed through a machine, is still used in heart-lung machines during open-heart surgery.

His artificial heart — though it carried the name of a colleague, Dr. Robert Jarvik — is still in use, in subsequent designs, as a bridge to transplantation in patients with heart failure.

The artificial heart was first implanted into a person, a 61-year-old retired dentist named Dr. Barney Clark, in 1982. It carried Jarvik’s name because it was Kolff’s policy to attach the name of the co-worker who was currently working on any particular model of artificial heart, according to Kolff’s biographer, Herman Broers, in the book “Inventor for Life” (B&V Media Publishers, 2007).

When it came time to implant a heart into a patient, Broers said, the Jarvik-7 was chosen because it had a multilayer diaphragm, designed by Jarvik, that proved crucial to the device’s success. But credit for the artificial heart belongs to Kolff.

As a young physician at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands in 1938, Kolff watched a young man die a slow, agonizing death from

temporary kidney failure. He reasoned that if he could find a way to remove the toxic waste products that build up in the blood of such patients, he could keep them alive until their kidneys rebounded.

For his first experiment, Kolff filled sausage casings with blood, expelled the air, added a kidney waste product called urea and agitated the contraption in a bath of salt water. The casings were semipermeable. Small molecules of urea could pass through the membrane, while larger blood molecules might not.

In five minutes, all the urea had moved into the salt water. The concept for building an artificial kidney was born. But it soon went underground.

In May 1940, Germany invaded the Netherlands. Rather than cooperate with Nazi sympathizers put in charge at Groningen, Kolff moved to a small hospital in Kampen, on the Zuider Zee (now called the IJsselmeer), to wait out the war. While there, he set up Europe’s first blood bank and saved more than 800 people from Nazi labor camps by hiding them in his hospital.

Governor Proposes Closing 8 Courts In New Hampshire

By **Katie Zezima**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BOSTON

Gov. John Lynch of New Hampshire on Thursday proposed closing a quarter of the state’s district courts as part of a plan to deal with a \$500 million two-year budget gap.

The plan, which would close eight of New Hampshire’s 33 district courts, comes as the state’s superior courts are halting jury trials for a month because of the state’s fiscal woes. The pause in trials, which will continue on a rotating basis until April, is expected to save the state about \$73,000.

Closing the small district courts and sending their cases to larger courts has been mulled for years. It is expected to save \$2 million a year for two years, mainly the cost of leasing court buildings, without layoffs.

Even so, some worry the consolidation could change the judicial landscape.

“A lot of them seem like they could be easily done,” said Chuck Temple, a professor at Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord, N.H., and director of the school’s criminal practice clinic. “But it’s going to be a fairly drastic change to a system I think has been working well, both civilly and criminally, for a long time.”

IRS Study Tries to Assess Whether Hospitals Earn Their Tax Breaks

By **Stephanie Strom**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Nonprofit hospitals vary widely in the amount and type of charitable benefits they provide the communities they serve, an Internal Revenue Service study released Thursday found.

The two-year study also found that most hospitals followed proper procedures in establishing salaries and benefits for their executives.

Over the last several years, members of Congress have raised concerns over whether nonprofit hospitals provide enough free care and other community benefits to justify their tax exemptions.

There is, however, no test for measuring how much community benefit is enough or even what constitutes community benefit. The bulk of one hospital’s community benefit may be producing pamphlets on the importance of prenatal care, while another’s may be the cost of treating uninsured patients.

“There are no bright lines,” said Lois G. Lerner, director of the IRS division that oversees tax-exempt organizations.

The almost 500 hospitals responding to the IRS survey reported spending an average of 9 percent of their total revenues on providing community benefits, including free medical care, education and research.

Britain Refuses Entry To Dutch Lawmaker

By **John F. Burns**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LONDON

A Dutch member of Parliament who has compared the Quran to “Mein Kampf” and blamed Islamic texts for inciting the 9/11 attacks was detained by immigration officials at Heathrow Airport on Thursday and forced to board the next flight back to the Netherlands. His deportation had been ordered by Britain’s home secretary on the grounds that his presence in Britain endangered public safety.

The lawmaker, Geert Wilders, had been invited to the House of Lords for a screening of his film “Fitna,” which caused outrage in the Muslim world after it appeared on the Internet last year. It juxtaposes images of the Quran with reports of the 9/11 attacks, as well as gruesome images of the Madrid, Spain, bombings in 2004, the London transit attacks in 2005 and other atrocities. It also suggests that parts of the Quran have contributed to provoking violence by Muslim extremists.

Wilders’ deportation — an action British officials said had occurred only a handful of times in the case of a citizen from another European Union nation — attracted widespread attention. Although he had been informed of the Home Office ban by the British Embassy in The Hague this week, Wilders boarded a flight in Amsterdam and arrived at Heathrow to the accompaniment of live television coverage by Britain’s main news channels.

“This is something you’d expect from Saudi Arabia, not Britain,” he said before his flight from Amsterdam.

Wilders, whose Freedom Party holds nine seats in the 120-seat Dutch Parliament, had framed the affair as a test of freedom of speech and as a demonstration of what he has called the “Islamicization” of Europe.

Together with his host for the London screening, Malcolm Pearson, whose United Kingdom Independence Party campaigns for the preservation of Britain’s traditionalist culture, he has succeeded in stirring a strident debate in Britain.

U.S. Agents Scrutinize Texas Firm

By **Julie Creswell**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

For years, R. Allen Stanford, a flamboyant Texas billionaire, richly rewarded the well-heeled clients of his private investment empire.

But now federal authorities are investigating whether those rewards were simply too good to be true.

Several federal agencies, including the Securities and Exchange Commission, the FBI and the Internal Revenue Service, have spent “many months” looking into the business activities of the Stanford Financial Group, which is based in Houston, and Stanford’s bank based in Antigua, which issues high-yielding certificates of deposit, according to two individuals briefed on the investigations who were not authorized to speak publicly.

The focus of the investigations appears to be how the bank could issue CDs that pay interest rates that are more than twice the national average.

A spokesman for Stanford Financial said the company had been told by the SEC and by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, a securities industry oversight group, that “their visits to our offices were part of a routine examination.”

OPINION

Who Won the Civil War?

Organizations Refuse to Defend Farley

Jonathan D. Farley

As we celebrate the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, the 100th anniversary of the founding of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the inauguration of America's first black president, and Black History Month, it's worth pondering the question, "Who won the Civil War?"

On November 20, 2002, I wrote in a Nashville newspaper that a relatively new, taxpayer-funded, gun-toting statue honoring the founder of the Ku Klux Klan should be removed. This founder had executed black soldiers, along with women and children, instead of taking them prisoner — the penalty for inciting slave insurrection, under Confederate law, being death — and, under today's laws, he would be given Eichmann's sentence, not a statue.

Immediately came death threats. "Get a bodyguard or carry [a] gun," wrote Christopher Barwick, adding: "you will need it."

"Forget Iraq," wrote Jay and Pam Simms: "we should call in an air strike on [Farley's university] department."

Henry Maston said, "I hope someone kills and rapes your white, race-traitor wife and/or girlfriend as well."

Gordon Baum, head of the national Council of Conservative Citizens — the "uptown Klan," according The Nation Magazine's John Nichols — attacked me on National Public Radio; in an unsigned editorial, the Council wrote, "Vanderbilt professor Johnathan Farley (sic) was educated at Harvard and Oxford, but his simple-minded tirades ... indicate how low prestigious universities will stoop to dole out fancy degrees to blacks ... Let's gather a mob."

Instead of defending me against such vitriol or remaining silent, my own university, Vanderbilt, joined in on the attack. Both the head

of Vanderbilt, Gordon Gee, and the university spokesman, Michael Schoenfeld, criticized me, the former calling me "volatile" and the latter an extremist. At no point did either of these men utter one word of criticism about the founder of the KKK, the Confederacy, or any of the individuals or groups targeting me for defamation, termination, hospitalization, or worse.

As a Life Member, I went to the NAACP for help. The Nashville chapter president, Ludye Wallace, agreed to write a letter of support, but the very next day backed away, saying he did not want to be "out there" like me. His successor as president, Sonnye Dixon, refused to ask the local newspaper to stop publishing libel against me, even though the articles could lead to death threats being issued against anyone described as a supporter of mine — as happened to Vanderbilt Black Student Alliance president Nia Toomer.

Even Gordon Gee had to call police for protection after a man threatened to "cut [his] heart out." One of Dixon's successors as Nashville NAACP president, Arnett Bodenhamer, and the latter's assistant, Tommie Morton-Young, would also do nothing.

The head of the NAACP in the Southeast United States, Charles White, was informed of the situation when it first erupted, but said the NAACP could only consider the issue in three months. The NAACP Legal Defense Fund was also informed, via the wife of Ben Jealous, current national president of the NAACP, but took no action. Meanwhile, my essay criticizing the Klan founder was being branded a "hate crime" by national columnists like Walter Williams and Paul Craig Roberts, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury under Ronald Reagan. The attack continued in the *Washington Times* and on Fox News with Brit Hume.

Eventually, I wrote Julian Bond, chairman of the national NAACP. Bond replied that he

himself would not have asked for or expected any help from the NAACP: it was my own "responsibility" to deal with the attacks. When I told this to Ben Jealous at a family Thanksgiving, he replied that Bond probably figured it was my own fault — that I had asked for it, that I had had it coming.

While the NAACP showed no interest in my case, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, a 25,000-member organization that commemorated the last ride of the KKK in Nashville, targeted me with extreme prejudice. They even sought to take legal action against me for having written the essay. Eventually I fled the state, leaving many of my belongings behind.

Pouring salt in the wound, the Nashville NAACP gave an award to Gordon Gee — the man who, by criticizing my critique of the founder of the KKK, was indirectly defending him. Indeed, Gee called the Daughters of the Confederacy "old friends."

I told Vanderbilt I wanted to take an unpaid leave of absence to avoid more death threats. Vanderbilt Dean Richard McCarty wrote that "a purported debate over whether the founder of the Ku Klux Klan should be honored in Nashville, and past threats you claim have been made against you," were not good enough reasons, and that if I did not return to Vanderbilt he would have me fired. Weeks after McCarty wrote this, a Nashville judge issued a \$700,000.00 judgment in favor of the UDC and against Vanderbilt, unless Vanderbilt surrendered. Vanderbilt surrendered.

America has indeed come a long way. Perhaps, by the end of this century, a black man will finally be able answer the question, without taking his life into his hands:

Who won the Civil War?
Dr. Jonathan David Farley was a Martin Luther King Visiting Associate Professor of Applied Mathematics at MIT in 2003 and 2004.



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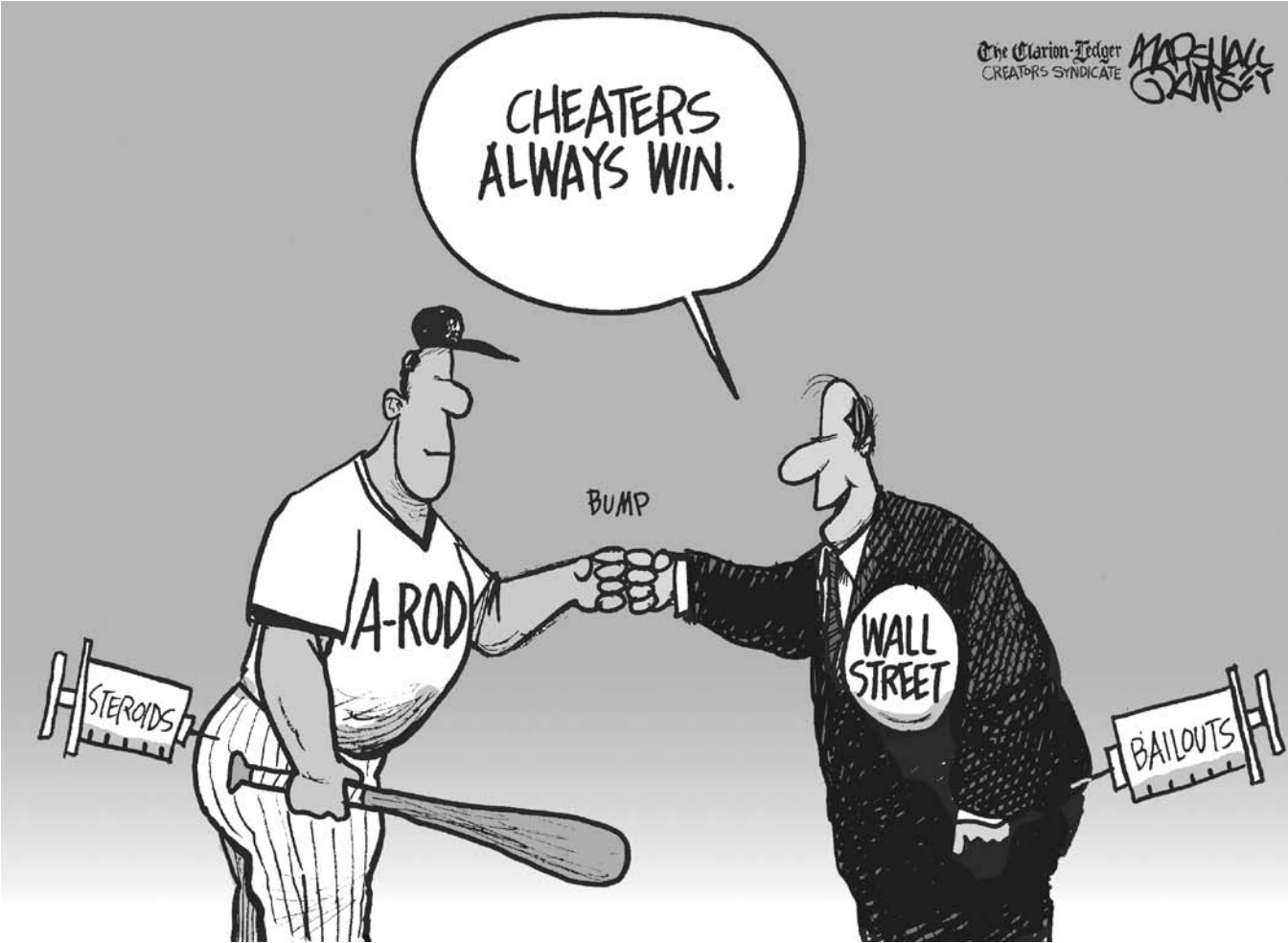
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Trials and Tribulations in the First Twenty Days

Why ‘Big Names’ Might Sink Obama’s ‘Big Plans’

Ethan Solomon

Storm clouds have begun to gather since the bright, sunny day we welcomed Barack Obama as the 44th President of the United States. Faced with a seemingly intractable economic crisis and a Senate mired in the same kind of partisan squabbling that we all know and hate, there were few who truly expected the administration to fix the country in the first few weeks. I did not expect Barack Obama to resolve the crisis single-handedly. But, like many Americans, I expected more from the people the President picked to run his administration.

It's not Barack Obama's fault that Tim Geithner and Tom Daschle can't pay their taxes, or that Larry Summers '75 won't let Paul Volcker, the chair of the Economic Recovery Advisory Board, into White House meetings. But given

the scope of the economic crisis, things like unpaid taxes might seem like a trivial thing to waste time on.

What is an issue is the underlying pathology of these people. Why didn't Geithner and Daschle (among others) pay their taxes? Why, at such a critical time, is there discord amongst members of Obama's economic team?

Geithner's and Daschle's tax troubles were "mistakes anybody could make." That's true. But these were avoidable mistakes and mistakes that stem from an "above-the-law" sense of entitlement that I would have come to expect from the Bush administration.

Case-in-point: Daschle's unpaid taxes were largely taxes on a limousine and chauffeur service. The image of Daschle, the would-be health czar, kicked back in a stretch limo and not paying a dime for it while millions of Americans live without health care smacks of something Donald Rumsfeld would do.

Does any of this mean that people like Geithner, Daschle, or Summers wouldn't make good administrators? In a sense, yes. It's one thing to have the technical expertise to serve as Treasury or Health and Human Services Secretary. In that regard, all of Obama's candidates have been exemplary picks. But it's their sense of entitlement; the "above the law" arrogance which caused those tax slip-ups that makes them poor picks. On a psychological and even neurological level, people who can empathize with their constituents make fundamentally better policymakers.

Tim Geithner may have the number-crunching skills to serve as Treasury secretary, but relative to many Americans, he has no stake in the outcome of his decisions. And, in a very real way, that affects his ability to make policy. This type of empathic failure extends to Daschle and Summers and was pandemic in the Bush Administration. It will spread

through the Obama administration if not addressed quickly. Then, it'll most certainly be "the same old politics as usual."

Fortunately, the President himself seems much more in touch with his constituents than the people he picked to run his administration. And he also seems like the kind of person who learns from his mistakes. He understands that he needs to pick people who are experienced and competent; that goes without saying. Now, he needs to grasp that the biggest names aren't always the best names.

Too often, the biggest names tend to be the ones who can least empathize with and understand the people they're trying to help. And no matter how good their intentions, understanding has a key role to play in policymaking. Obama must look for people who not only understand the economy and healthcare, but also the people whose lives depend on their decisions.

Unreasonable Expectations

Phelps, Obama, and the Cult of Personality

Maggie Liu

I have to say, I was seriously irked last week by the public reaction to the "shocking" announcement that swimming sensation Michael Phelps had taken a hit from a bong. How scandalous! In the summer of 2008, during the Beijing Olympics, Phelps was, to put it crudely, "the shiz." How quickly the tables can turn.

Last summer, Phelps was a national hero — after successfully securing eight gold medals and breaking seven world records in one Olympics, he was scoring sponsorships left and right. Phelps was America's sweetheart with his boyish good looks and honest open expression. He was the idol of not only the young swimmers in the world but also of most of the American public. It was a show of strength even amid domestic instability.

Recently, however, photos of Phelps taking a hit have been spread across all forms of media — newspapers, tabloids, and television stations. It's almost as if every news editor and anchorman has witnessed personal betrayal, a mortal sin. However, the only people to blame for those who believe that Phelps has "betrayed them" are members of the media itself.

Who created the image of Michael Phelps as the clean-cut boy next door? The pure-hearted young man only intent on swimming his best and achieving success for himself and United States? It is inevitable that when an individual becomes a public figure, a particular image is always associated with him. This "image" is often two-dimensional and flattens the individuals' other talents or characteristics. However, the media plays up the image and the public is only more than willing to embrace it.

The cult of personality has long been an issue of debate. Many argue that public figures are held to different standards than normal people. Are they not human? Stripping aside their status and fame, they are all ordinary people just very good at one particular thing. They might have stumbled upon their celebrity. Be this the product of welcome or unwelcome fame, in the public consciousness such individuals lose their personal identity once they become public figures. In the case of political figures or individuals regarded as national heroes, the pressure is especially heavy. The burdens

of maintaining the same image with which one debuted into the public mind is doubtlessly taxing.

It is impossible to tell society as a whole to sympathize with these public figures. It is an intrinsic trait of society to be idealistic and often victims of their attention are either raised to the highest pedestal or ostracized to the far ends of the earth. There is seldom a middle ground for those in the public spotlight — those who are intent on following their career but detest the public attention will purposely shun the media.

Society is a scary thing. Once it develops a reputation for a figure, it latches onto it and begins to spread the rose-tinted visions of it. The way Phelps' face was all over the recent media, I could not help being reminded of the iconic posters of our recently sworn-in president, Barack Obama. While now Obama is being hailed the "change we need," "the fresh face," and even the symbol for "progress," the incident with Michael Phelps makes me wonder how long it will take before Obamamania dies off and the man's popularity becomes stale.

Many have brought up this question. Obama has already shown slight derivations from the ideologies he championed during his campaign. "When will the honeymoon be over?" critics ask with a knowing smirk. We know that the honeymoon will end at some point — it's only a matter of when and how long it will take for it to come to an end. Will it be the result of a graceful landing or a catastrophic crash?

What will not be justified is if there is a general backlash against our president and cries of disillusionment. When the time comes, just remember that it was you who created the icon. Heroes are not made overnight and are certainly not made by themselves.

Even if heroes fall in the eyes of society, it does not make their deeds or success any less impressive. In the case of Michael Phelps, my amazement and admiration in him as an athlete has not changed. The man is amazing. Despite the current scandal, the only things that have really taken a hit are his idol-like status and a Kellogg's sponsorship. Phelps is no less a swimmer than he was before. Let us hope that people are more open-minded when Obama's hero status fades as he assumes his presidential duties.

Idealist or Realist?

Obama's Confused Foreign Policy

By Keith Yost

Obama's muddled thinking on foreign policy will walk him into the same pitfalls as his predecessor

It's not uncommon for inauguration speeches to be packed with grandiloquent foreign policy fluff. In his own address, Coolidge claimed, "We have never any wish to interfere in the political conditions of other countries," but every president since (sans Ford, of course) has made opportunity of the occasion to give a majestic call to action based on American exceptionalism and the divine power of freedom.

For nearly a century, from Hoover's muted charge that America will "do its full share as a nation toward the advancement of civilization" to the rhetorical heights of George W. Bush's second inaugural, American presidents have unanimously preached the virtue of internationalism. The public, one must conclude, are gluttons for it; Kennedy's commitment to "pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, in order to assure the survival and the success of liberty" is still regarded as stirring, even after the experience of Vietnam showed how costly and undesirable that commitment really was.

By this standard, President Obama's speech on January 20th was reserved, even conciliatory. His predecessor, four years earlier, was unequivocal in his demand for freedom:

"All who live in tyranny and hopelessness can know: the United States will not ignore your oppression, or excuse your oppressors... America will not pretend that jailed dissidents prefer their chains, or that women welcome humiliation and servitude, or that any human being aspires to live at the mercy of bullies."

In contrast, President Obama was content to merely note that tyrants "are on the wrong side of history" and leave it at that. The implication was clear: no need for messy nation building and democratization—the inexorable march of time will uproot despots without our aid.

Despite his very clear disdain for W's brand of crusading adventurism, the newly minted president couldn't help but honor inaugural tradition and sing a little paean to American idealism:

"As for our common defense, we reject as false the choice between our safety and our ideals... Those ideals still light the world, and we will not give them up for expedience's sake."

A heartening thought, this notion that no compromise is necessary between our national interests and our ideological commitments. But is it really true?

For the sake of argument, let's suppose that the number one threat to America's safety is nuclear proliferation and our most important ideal is the inviolability of human rights. To curb nuclear proliferation, we are induced to build coalitions against Iran and North Korea and diplomatically pressure them to forsake their weapons programs. But a renewed commitment to human rights would put us at loggerheads with many of the countries that are needed in our non-proliferation coalitions — we cannot simultaneously censure China for its human rights abuses and expect it to deliver us North Korean cooperation; we cannot pillory our Arab allies while urging resistance to Iran.

If we drew up a list of our safety concerns and ideals and played mix and match, we'd find the same sorts of trade-offs occurring no matter what the pairing. The axiomatic truth that Obama has chosen to ignore is that he cannot have his cake and eat it too.

It's easy to dismiss Obama's address as un-

felt optimism — that is, after all, what inaugurals are for — except that Obama wasn't any more forthcoming during the campaign either. All he ever assured us of was that Iraq-style nation building was over — a meaningless assurance given the mood of the country. Absent amidst all his talk of "tough diplomacy" was the much needed identification and prioritization of America's goals and interests.

Some would argue that it doesn't matter, that Obama's lack of a definite policy direction will be more than offset by the goodwill his election has engendered around the world. He is, if nothing else, popular. The cheering throngs of foreigners that greeted him during his "fact finding" trip last summer have made this abundantly clear.

The degree to which the world is enamored with Obama goes so far that one German reporter, Judith Bonesky, in a truly sickening, gushingly saccharine article, claimed that Obama could bicep curl a fantastical 70lbs in one hand. She ended her piece with the exclamation "WHAT A MAN!" presumably to counter the obvious conclusion, drawn by any gym rat with a picture of the president's arms, that Obama must actually be Superman himself.

With the hearts and minds ("minds" being a generous use of the term in Ms. Bonesky's case) of the world so securely in his pocket, surely Obama will overcome all obstacles, right?

Probably not. It is useful to remember that after September 11th, George Bush had the sympathy of much of the world behind him. Then, without a clear conception of the foreign policy goals being served (Non-proliferation? Counter-terrorism? Democratization?), the U.S. found itself in Iraq and the honeymoon was over as quickly as it had begun.

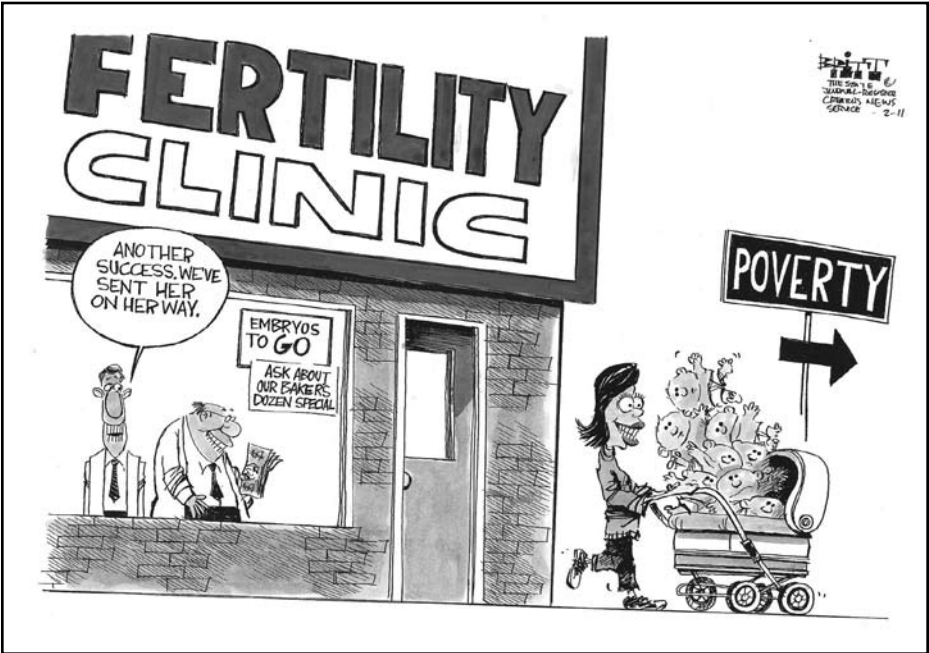
Only one week in, the administration's foreign policy is already exhibiting the unique form of schizophrenia that occurs when the commander-in-chief doesn't know what he wants. With one hand, Obama decided to close Guantanamo Bay and end the abuse of detainees, and with the other he endorsed CIA airstrikes against targets inside Pakistan.

What sort of legal exegesis does it take to conclude that the detention of "enemy combatants" is illegal, but the willful violation of another nation's sovereignty is not? What sort of moral calculation does it take to conclude that causing the suffering of prisoners in the name of the national interest is wrong, but causing the suffering of children in the name of the national interest is right?

The toll of the latest airstrike is three children, according to Pakistani news reports, with much more collateral damage to follow should the strikes become a regular occurrence under the Obama administration. At such a rate, it won't be long before Obama has squandered the world's good will just as Bush did.

Before this goes any further, Obama needs to sit down and do a little self-discovery. Am I an idealist or a realist? Do I care more about the means or the ends? Do I care more about adherence to American moral principles or concrete national interests? What should be our moral principles? What are our national interests? How many children am I willing to kill to get Osama bin Laden?

What Obama has derided as a false choice is in truth the biggest choice he can make as president. A change of tactics is not enough — until the president calibrates his thinking on these matters and comes up with a coherent vision of the United States' goals for the 21st century, little progress is going to be made in putting the Bush years behind us.



CAMPUS LIFE

Brouhaha Rhythm

Curing Cupid's Cynicism

By Michael Lin

CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

With Valentine's Day inbound, the annual chorus of its detractors is at its loudest. Some, still hoarse from the holiday season, decry the commercialization of a day supposedly dedicated to romance, while others bemoan the existence of the day at all, concerned that the setting aside of a special day for romance demeans the passion of the everyday.

Personally, I've never felt any personal hostility towards Valentine's Day, despite having spent my fair share of time in an unflatteringly bitter state of singleness. I enjoyed sifting through the compulsory Valentine's Day cards of elementary school, although I confess that deluding myself into thinking a fun-size chocolate bar was some kind of declaration of love is not my proudest moment.

Even when I sank to drowning my sorrows in juice boxes, I generally cursed the inability of the other 8-year-olds to recognize my genius rather than the day of special romantic observance or the drunken archery of a certain diaper-

wearing cherub. Bearing that in mind, although I can sympathize to some degree with those who feel that Valentine's Day is overrated or improperly focused, I must respectfully disagree.

Philosophically, I never believed that Valentine's Day required people to love their significant others more than they do on any other day. Rather, I consider the encouragement to be more in the direction of showing the extent of one's *affection* more fully — call it semantics if you want, but there's every difference in my mind. The notion that affection must be a constant function strikes me as being a little simplistic. After all, emotions are dynamic and fluid like... like... you know, it's probably a bad sign that the first metaphor for "dynamic and fluid" that pops into my mind is "phlegm." I hate being sick.

As I was saying, I don't believe that the mandate of Valentine's Day encourages loving one's significant other more so much as it provides an easy-to-select wedding date and a good reason to make a romantic gesture in case your anniversary is on the other side of the calendar.

Conveniently enough, it also makes it easier

for people to help each other in their romantic endeavors at the same time. I mean, I love my girlfriend every day of the year besides Valentine's Day, but I imagine I'd have difficulty convincing the Logarithms to affordably perform a phone serenade any day of the year besides Valentine's Day. Moreover, I'd almost certainly feel considerable paranoia that they wouldn't be singing what I requested. My girlfriend may be wonderfully forgiving, but it would be more than a little problematic explaining to her what I was trying to say by having her serenaded with Queen's "Fat Bottomed Girls" over the telephone.

So, the capitalistic powers that be have found it financially sound to market 200 grams of kiss-shaped milk chocolate to young couples prepared to commit nutritional hara-kiri — so what? That doesn't make having a specific day of observance any less convenient for people with ambitious Valentine's Day plans — the flip side of commercialism is that the selection of available commodities and services expands considerably. If the entire populace knows that

people who are in relationships, looking for relationships, or glancing sidelong at relationships with vaguely positive regard are looking to display their affection on the same day, then plenty will be thrilled to offer their assistance.

Of course, one has to sort out the good couple coupons from the bad couple coupons, but I like a challenge, and trying to conjure a creative present for my girlfriend that isn't the same-old "flowers, box of chocolates, stuffed mammal" certain qualifies. (No offense intended to people who are fans of roses and nougat — my girlfriend and I are non-conventionalists.)

The way I figure, Valentine's Day exists as an avenue by which people can celebrate love (insert song title reference here). And, regardless of how others view or don't view the spirit of the holiday, I see no reason why I can't make the most of the occasion, anyway. Now, if you'll excuse me, I've got to go to work. Valentine's Day collaboration is a two-way road, and as little as I understand it, it's none of my business if someone wants to express his or her affection via Macarena-gram.

Talk Nerdy to Me

A Valentine's Day to Remember

By Christine Yu

STAFF COLUMNIST

Last year, I spent Valentine's Day in a mental hospital. The day before that, I spent a couple of hours in jail. In the age of the Internet, I should be terrified to write this piece, as Google will forever attach it to my name. Then again, my reputation on the World Wide Web isn't exactly flawless — this information about me is already out there in an MIT Police log and in my personal blog.

If anyone has ever looked up my name in *The Tech's* search function, a page that comes up is an MIT Police log, which states "arrest for domestic assault and battery" next to my name. When people hear the term "domestic

assault and battery," they usually assume that someone beat their significant other to a pulp. Nope. I just pulled a diva move and slapped an "ex" in front of a police officer.

Before this event, I had taken a decent number of sleeping pills — but I spit most of them out when I realized that I didn't write a suicide note. See, last year, I was in an incredibly unhealthy relationship where all we did was fight and fuck. We fought daily, but we always made sure to put on a happy façade for our friends, who fueled our affair with the line, "OMG, you two are so cute together!"

In retrospect, our relationship was doomed from the start — we went "Facebook Official" after an explosive fight about my drinking hab-


its. To cope with anxiety and depression freshman year, I turned to booze and sleeping pills. I cared so much about what others thought that I couldn't seek help. I entered this relationship foolishly in hopes for stability. In the end, I hit rock bottom, trying to off myself after an incredibly explosive fight, and, well, the other details in the story just get convoluted and complicated.


This Valentine's Day will mark the one-year anniversary of hitting rock bottom, and at least I know that I will have to make a personal effort to top last Valentine's Day. When my friends complain about being single this Valentine's, I want to say, "well, better single than in a relationship which leads to you end-

ing up in a mental hospital!" Instead, I just tell them, "I'm single, and well, it's for the better."


These days, I acknowledge that one person can't be someone's savior. However, it is possible to have a strong support mechanism of family, friends, and even a therapist. I would rather have a stable relationship than a roller coaster romance that ends with a crash. I was a silly freshman who believed it was a sign of weakness to seek help; now, I've learned it's an indication that you know yourself well enough. It would have saved me a lot of added stress if I sought help sooner, and well, as a new Valentine's Day approaches, I'm grateful for how far I've come.

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ARTS

CONCERT REVIEW

A Renaissance Fervor

Schola Cantorum Boston Performs the Works of Early Renaissance Franco-Flemish Composers

By Sudeep Agarwala
STAFF WRITER
Schola Cantorum Boston
Fredrick Jodry, Director
St. John the Evangelist, Boston
February 6, 2009

Johannes Ockeghem was writing in the fifteenth century, a time whose musical traditions may already have been lost to the ages. Ockeghem’s music, still a matter of active research and lively debate in terms of its performance and practice, was written in a time that preferred vacuous perfect intervals to plump triads at the close of cadences, when tritones were still considered *diabuli in musica*, when audiences were still intimately familiar with the melodies of Gregorian chant and plainsong.

Now in its twenty-third year, Schola Cantorum of Boston, a 12-voice vocal ensemble, understood these issues from the first note during a performance of early Renaissance Franco-Flemish composers last Friday evening.

The performance was startling in its conception of sound from the very beginning. The ten-member ensemble produced a surprisingly rich tone devoid of modern notions of vibrato, yet aptly motivated in their interpretation of the arsis and thesis of the early Renaissance’s increasingly complex melodic line. And the venue was surprisingly responsive.

While much early music in Boston is plagued with issues of performance arena (chamber works drown in Gothic churches, motets and anthems fall dead on the stages of Jordan and Symphony Hall, choral performances fail to

resonate in lecture halls), the arched ceilings of the St. John the Evangelist sanctuary in Boston’s Beacon Hill neighborhood resonated and amplified the relatively cosmopolitan harmonies and rhythmic structures the composers in the early Renaissance were exploring. It’s somehow not unreasonable to envision the choir and church that informed and shaped the music performed on Friday evening.

Ockeghem made an appearance in the second half of Friday’s concert, first as the focus of Josquin des Prez’s paean on his death in *Nymphes des bois* “*La déploration de Johannes Ockeghem*” and second as the man himself in a *Requiem*, one of the earliest known of its kind (superseded only by Dufay’s lost work of the same genre). Although earlier than Josquin’s work, Ockeghem’s work is significantly more difficult: the *Requiem* often fragments the choir to illustrate passages in the text, employing two or three voice parts in hair-raising melismatic counterpoint.

Although the acoustics sometimes muddled these interactions in the lower voices, Schola Cantorum’s remarkably blended upper voices gracefully negotiated these labyrinthine passages. What was remarkable was the thoughtful construction of the choral ensemble in sections using all four voices; the ensemble managed exquisite balance in passages employing a huge range of pitches — no small feat in the resonant cavern of the sanctuary.

Ockeghem’s work was in stark contrast with Josquin’s *Nymphes des bois*. While Ockeghem’s work explored the possibilities of ensembles within the choir, Josquin’s was concerned with

the contrapuntal possibilities of the entire choir. And this is precisely how Josquin’s work is strikingly cosmopolitan both in its conception and performance; not only in its integration of old and new (the Gregorian *cantus firmus* paired with Josquin’s novel thinking on counterpoint), secular and ecclesiastical (the Latin tenor with French text by Molinet entreating none other than Josquin and three of his contemporaries to mourn the loss of their *bon père*) but in the many stark contrasts in the piece to reflect the poem itself. It’s in this synthesis that Schola Cantorum’s performance was particularly successful — the ensemble’s impeccable blend, made only more smooth and rich in the aptly resonant chapel, allowed Josquin’s work to blossom into its own dire sorrow.

Motets from four of the leading composers mentioned in Josquin’s *Nymphes des bois* comprised the first half of Friday’s concert. The performance began with two motets (*O bone Jesu* and *Ave Maria*) from Loyset Compère and continued with *Planxit autem David* from Josquin des Prez. Although both were Franco-Flemish composers writing in roughly the same period of time in the same part of the world, the music, given periodic constraints, could not have been more different.

Compère’s motets, unusually combining traditional biblical passages, set the texts in sustained vocal lines. By comparison, Josquin’s lines were florid — individual vocal lines maintained a role in the complex counterpoint but moved in almost giddy melismae that, at times, became lost in the cavernous sanctuary of St. John the Evangelist.

The import of the Renaissance on Franco-Flemish sixteenth-century music compounded throughout the evening: Pierre de la Rue and Antoine Brumel continued the first half of the concert, each augmenting the degree of text painting and affectation in the melodic line. Text painting became more prominent in De la Rue’s Absolon *fili mi*, a poignantly moving setting of David’s lament after the death of his son, culminating in Antoine Brumel’s jubilant *Laudate Dominum* (a setting of Psalms 148 and 150).

Friday’s Schola Cantorum Boston performance bore the unmistakable fingerprint of professionalism and academic integrity. Although typographic errors frequently marred the primary texts published in the program, it was undeniable that Schola Cantorum’s performance was informed with an eye towards authenticity and current scholarship on early Renaissance performance. The complete devotion to detail made possible by the considerable talents of the ensemble in addition to Jodry’s scholarship made a potentially bloodless evening of early Renaissance ecclesiastical music into the vibrant, thriving genre it once was and has grown to become.

Having recorded early European and American with the Boston Camerata under the direction of Joel Cohen as well as on their own releases, Schola Cantorum Boston’s repertoire spans a vast and varied opus of music. The ensemble’s season concludes with a performance of works by Palestrina, Randall Thompson, and Cipriano de Rore on April 17th, 18th and 19th. More information on these performances can be found at <http://www.scholacantorumboston.com>.

CONCERT REVIEW

‘Where the Word Ends’

Schuller Is Stunning, at Any Age

By Samuel Markson
STAFF WRITER
Gunther Schuller
Symphony Hall
February 7, 2009

It’s hard to be a living legend. It’s hard enough having one brilliant idea. It’s even harder moving past it. To be an over-the-hill performer without just regurgitating the epiphanies of one’s early years is certainly something.

To be doing it at the ripe age of 83 is something extraordinary.

The audience at Symphony Hall was more awake than usual for the second day of the premiere of Gunther Schuller’s “Where the Word Ends.” This wasn’t a history class. People felt as if they were part of something — chatting a little bit louder, leaning out a little bit further. The air felt just a little bit heavier. People were expecting something new. Schuller, once again, delivered.

He’s had some experience. Playing French horn with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra at the age of 17 and recording with Miles Davis six years later, Schuller has consistently managed to stay ahead of the curve, never getting trapped within a genre and always managing to both push the envelope and respect and imitate the contributions of past players.

While a professor at Brandeis, he coined the term “Third Stream” to describe the fusion of jazz and classical elements in music. He’s worked with Ornette Coleman, John Lewis, and Gil Evans, along with the likes of James Levine, managing to blur the gap between Mahler and Mingus (conducting the latter’s posthumous work *Epitaph*). The product is fresh and refined, soulful and technically brilliant, improvisational and yet deeply controlled. He’s encouraged more classical players to pay attention to jazz and vice-versa.

“Where the Word Ends” is an ode to music itself: it teeters on the point where concrete arguments fail, where we need pure sound to com-

municate. It’s both textural and driven, with the persistent moodiness of Brian Eno, and the sudden intense emotional shifts of Mahler. Unlike Mahler though, Schuller doesn’t need a whole orchestra to change keys, nor does he need a section to drop out. He’s more subtle, exploiting minute changes in articulation, tempo and tiny variations in repeated patterns to make a world of emotive difference. By pulling a single strand in a tightly interwoven polyphonic wall (parts are rarely doubled — each of the eighteen first violins has, in essence, a solo part), Schuller manages to either tighten or unravel an entire texture.

The result is exact, meticulous, delicate, nuanced, and sublime. At the same time, though, it is emotionally whole. Composed in a mere thirty hours, “Where the Word Ends” has a certain consistency. There are no chapters, just a single story. It is, in that sense, improvisational jazz. It is free, with each melody prepared to resolve or intensify at a whim, but with every whim feeling natural, significant, and necessary.

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★½

Only for the Brave Children

Coraline Is an Animated Scare... and Success

By Maggie Liu
STAFF WRITER
Coraline
Written and Directed by Henry Selick
PG
Now Playing

If I were a young child, I do not think that I would have been able to watch the entirety of *Coraline* without screaming my head off. The genius of the stop-motion 3D film is its ability to transcend age barriers.

The film is based on Neil Gaiman’s novella *Coraline*. It is unclear whether or not it really was a children’s novella. Although I first discovered *Coraline* in the children’s section, I was quite sure that it was a bit too heavy and horrific for some of the younger readers after I read it. Even in the film adaptation, which is animated and whose characters have decidedly exaggerated features, the themes are dark and remarkably mature for its supposed target audience.

The plot line centers on a precocious and outspoken young girl named Coraline. Her pet peeves include the rain and people mistakenly calling her “Caroline” instead of “Coraline.” Unfortunately for her, after moving to Oregon with her parents, the precipitation only increas-

es and her only companions are her elderly, loony neighbors.

The film’s initial color scheme, a drab non-committal grey, reflects Coraline’s initial mood. Her world is best characterized as boring. Her parents, loving but work-obsessed garden catalogue writers, are nice enough but seem to have no capabilities beyond sitting in front of the computer.

Coraline’s adventures begin when her mother, fed up with the twelve-year-old’s pestering, discovers a peculiar door. During the day, the door is bricked up, much to Coraline’s disappointment but during the night, Coraline discovers that the door leads to a fantastic world splashed in color and delights.

This world parallels Coraline’s own — in it she finds her mother (who insists on calling herself the Other Mother), her father, and even her house, but everything is tailored to her desires. The chillingly creepy difference is that everything in the world has shiny black buttons for eyes. When Coraline realizes that perhaps the alternate universe is not as lovely as she initially thought it was, her journey through perilous challenges begins.

A large factor of the film’s success lies in

the way it was filmed. The visionary director, Henry Selick, is best known for the cult classic *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. Stop-motion animation brought to the film part of its realism. Stop-motion involves the construction of many figures that are moved by small amounts between photograph frames.

In the case of *Coraline*, the sculptors were able to utilize current technology and 3D printers to expedite the process and provide rapid prototypes. This resulted in a wider variety of facial expressions on the puppets and less jerky movements. Twenty months of production, thirty animators, and fifty separate miniature sets were created for the sake of the film. Everything was shot on a tiny scale, but everything in the film had to be created by hand before it was shot. The 3D effects that went into the final production also brought an element of depth to the film that differentiated it from other animated films.



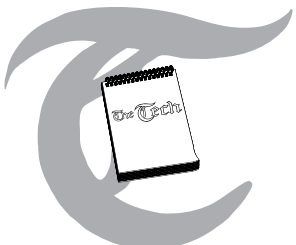
The whole film is definitely a visionary treat and harkens to the kid in us. Though a horror film at first glance, it reveals itself to be a traditional appraisal of virtue and determination when it is peeled apart. It is definitely worth the money — if you want to be pulled into another world for two hours.

Staff Picks

S. Balaji Mani
Dance — *Shakti: Women of Power*
MIT Natya, MIT’s premiere South Indian classical dance group, presents the stories of three remarkable Indian women in Hindu mythology. Check them out at Little Kresge Auditorium, this Sunday from 5 - 7 PM. Admission is only \$5 for MIT students.

Samuel Markson
Jazz — *Esperanza Spalding*
Esperanza Spalding, promising young bass player, performs at the Berkeley-affiliated theatre on Boylston Street Feb. 17th. She is guaranteed to impress.

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CONCERT REVIEW

Matt Wertz Rocks the Paradise

Pretty Impressive for ‘Just a Regular Guy’

By Nydia Ruleman
STAFF WRITER

Matt Wertz
Paradise Rock Club
February 6, 2009

Having been branded with a black “X” on each hand and informed not to drink “adult sodas,” I entered the Paradise Rock Club last Friday for the concert I had been enthusiastically anticipating — Matt Wertz.

I hadn’t heard of the opening band before I bought tickets to the concert, but I was pleasantly surprised by the Alternate Routes. Their music, rock with a bit of a twang, was enhanced by occasional tambourine and harmonica. During the final number, performed by both Matt Wertz’s band and the Alternate Routes, the lead singer stopped harmonizing for an intense whistling interlude. What I was most impressed with was the creative percus-

sion: a tool box filled with what sounded like nails, was used to keep a syncopated rhythm during “The Future’s Nothing New.”

As for the main act, I’ve been following Matt Wertz’s music for four years, since before he signed with a major label. Through the years, his music has evolved; he swaps the acoustic guitar for an electric one every once in a while and incorporates features from a wider variety of genres. At times, a mellow Wertz sounds like John Mayer or Jack Johnson, but occasionally he breaks out the falsetto like Justin Timberlake.

Wertz’s latest album, *Under Summer Sun*, released last September, features eight tracks from his previously released independent albums and four new songs. One of my personal favorites, “The Way I Feel” is a bluesy yet upbeat love song. Another classic, “Everything’s Right,” which first introduced me to the artist, is featured on the sound track of *My Super Ex-Girlfriend*. Another song I recommend is “5:19.” Wertz wrote it while waiting for the inevitable break-up phone call from his then-girlfriend. Wertz draws on his experiences to write love songs, a recurring theme in his

music. It’s good to know my favorite love song wasn’t written about a sandwich.

In the middle of his set, Wertz took five minutes to plug the Mocha Club, a grassroots effort his friend initiated after a trip to Africa, by encouraging fans to donate \$7 a month, roughly equivalent to two cups of mocha, to provide medication, education, and clean drinking water. This wasn’t an annoying celebrity platform; Wertz genuinely described the impact of his trip to Africa and the joy he saw there in the midst of difficulties. He even gave away free CDs to those who signed up that night.

I was impressed by Matt Wertz at the concert. His humor and charisma made the show entertaining. The music was better live. And most importantly, there’s a real person behind the songs — after all, he does claim he’s “just a regular guy.”

“Through the years, his music has evolved; he swaps the acoustic guitar for an electric one every once in a while and incorporates features from a wider variety of genres.”

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ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH
Barry Kudrowitz of Supadupa performs at the Student Art Association’s open house on February 7th.

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PAGES

Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters

Forget about Valentines? You're in luck!
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An MIT Valentine

Roses are red.

Actually, a rose, as you may know, is a perennial flower shrub or vine of the genus *Rosa*, within the family Rosaceae, that contains over 100 species. Each petal is divided into two distinct lobes and is usually white or pink, though in a few species yellow or red. Therefore most roses are really not red, but many have been selectively grown to exhibit this specific phenotype

Violets are blue.

Much like the rose, flower colors vary in the genus, ranging from violet, as their common name suggests, through various shades of blue, yellow, white, and cream, whilst some types are bicolored, often blue and yellow. Let's assume that in this case we are dealing with a flower that reflects electromagnetic waves dominated by energy with a wavelength of roughly 440–490 nm.

I have a problem set due Monday, and so do you.

So please accept this token of endearment and do not attempt further social communication with me until 1:05pm EST Monday, February 16, 2009 A.D.
Thank you for your time.

Note: Please realize that the shape of this card symbolically represents a heart. This is not an exact anatomical image of one, for that may cause nausea or discomfort.

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams



HELEN HOU—THE TECH
 Susan Hockfield invites questions from the MIT-China Forum audience after a talk given by His Excellency Zhou Wenzhong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China on Tuesday.

Madoff Collapse Wipes Out \$2M Grant from Picower Foundation

In 2002, the Barbara and Jeffry Picower Foundation gave MIT \$50 million to build building 46 and establish what's now the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory at MIT. At the time, the Picower Foundation had \$1 billion in assets.

On December 11, 2008, Bernard L. Madoff's \$50 billion hedge fund collapsed, when Madoff (pronounced MAY-doff) admitted his hedge fund was actually a Ponzi scheme — a confidence scheme that took in money from more and more investors and paid the older investors with the money from the new.

Five days before Christmas, the Picower Foundation revealed that its \$1 billion had been managed entirely by Madoff, the Foundation's assets were wiped out, and it was closing.

Yesterday's *Wall Street Journal* reported that MIT was expecting \$2 million in funding from Picower this year — funds that now will never arrive. It's not entirely clear what MIT was planning to use the funds for, but a December 20, 2008 *Boston Globe* article indicated that MIT received \$200,000 each year from the fund to support graduate fellowships in the name of Norman Leventhal '38.

Mark Bear, Director of the Picower Institute told the *Journal*, "This is a huge setback." With respect to funding, "We're back at the starting gate," he said.

New *ideabank.mit.edu* Helps Evaluate Cost Savings

Task Force, from Page 1

mation from a Data and Analysis Group.

Ultimately, Reif, Chancellor Philip L. Clay PhD '75, and Executive Vice President Theresa M. Stone SM '76 will decide on which ideas to implement.

Ideabank web site collects input

In order to increase involvement outside the Institute-wide Task Force, Reif launched an online interactive

forum, the MIT Idea Bank (<http://ideabank.mit.edu>). Since Monday morning, the Bank has received more than 200 ideas from students, staff, and faculty.

Mark W. Manley, along with many other contributors to Idea Bank, spoke out against wasting paper. "When I started working at MIT," Manley wrote, "I was extremely surprised to see how paper-driven it still was for many things." Manley proposed that financial reimbursements be automatically deposited

into the payroll rather than the current system of paper checks. Earning a rating of 5 out of a 5 star system, Manley's idea to reduce paper usage is one of the more popular ideas on Idea Bank.

Another hot topic on the forum concerns the heating and air-conditioning efficiencies of campus buildings. In a post on Idea Bank, Jason B. Cohen G recalled a time when he saw frost on the inside of windows at Eastgate and Building 54. Cohen proposed that single-pane windows

in MIT buildings be replaced with double-pane windows in order to improve heating insulation.

Other popular topics on the forum include energy conservation, lowering elevated salaries, reducing paper junk mail, and making more paper-work electronic. The ideas receiving the high ratings and popularity will be considered by the Institute-wide Task Force and brought to the coordinators.

Organization

As one of the three Task Force coordinators, Graduate Dean Steven R. Lerman '72 will collect ideas from working groups and submit them to the Provost. The coordinators "make sure the Task Force is able to realize its full potential," Lerman said. In addition, the coordinators will provide the MIT community with updates on ideas developed within working groups.

According to Lerman, the coordinators will meet on a regular basis with working group co-chairs to discuss recommended ideas. If approved, ideas concerning academic, administrative, and student life will be reviewed by Reif, Stone, and Clay, respectively.

Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings was chosen by Reif to co-chair the working group on education. "Fundamentally," said Hastings, "I accepted because MIT... has a serious budget crisis and we all need to step up to help." According to the Institute-wide Task Force website, the value of MIT's endowment dropped by approximately 25% from June to December, to \$7.6 billion.

In the coming months, further updates and announcements on new ideas will be posted on the Institute-wide Planning website (<http://web.mit.edu/instituteplanning>).

Course VI Grad Apps Only Up by 5 Percent

EECS Grad. Funding Down by 10 Percent

Grad Applicants, from Page 1

cations were received, again excluding Sloan applications. Last year, the Institute received 17,413 applications including Sloan, an increase of 1,150 from 2006.

Sloan saw a spike in its first round of applications and more normal numbers in the second round. Overall, Sloan is experiencing a "record year" in terms of received applications, according to Director of MBA

Admissions Rod Garcia.

The Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science saw a five percent increase in applications from last year, with 2,550, said EECS graduate officer Terry P. Orlando.

Orlando also said the department's funding has dropped ten percent from last year, and although it is common for funding to start low and rise, the drop could have to do with the recession. "People are being cautious because of financial issues," Orlando said.

The number of graduate students enrolled in EECS has decreased from 695 in 2006 and 685 in 2007 to 638 this fall.

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MIT Natya presents...

Shakti: Women of Power

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Spring Weekend: New Festival, Drag Show, Lip Sync, and Folds

Spring Weekend, from Page 1

dents). Velasquez was happy with the participation, but he conceded that the planning committee could have better advertised the survey to the graduate student community. Within the survey, participants could apply to join the Spring Weekend Action Team, which was responsible for planning the weekend's event. Eager to acquire as much student input and help as possible,

Spring Weekend Through the Years

Year	Performer
2008	Third Eye Blind
2007	Ying Yang Twins
2006	CAKE
2005	Fabulous
2004	Live
2003	Jurassic 5
2002	Sugar Ray
2001	The Roots
2000	They Might Be Giants
1999	Busta Rhymes

SOURCE: MATTHEW L. MCGANN '00

	Definitely	Probably	Possibly	Prob. Not	Def. Not	No Opn.
Jason Mraz	38%	19%	15%	11%	15%	2%
Ben Folds	32%	20%	18%	13%	15%	3%
Dashboard Confessional	23%	19%	22%	15%	17%	3%
Guster	21%	19%	22%	17%	18%	3%
Gym Class Heroes	19%	18%	22%	18%	20%	3%
O.A.R.	19%	18%	20%	20%	20%	3%
Sara Bareilles	20%	15%	21%	21%	22%	2%
T-Pain	23%	13%	16%	19%	27%	2%
The Roots	15%	14%	22%	24%	22%	4%
Kings of Leon	9%	13%	23%	29%	24%	3%

SOURCE: STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE

The Spring Weekend organizers' survey results; 1,015 students responded. Ben Folds came in second, behind Jason Mraz and ahead of Dashboard Confessional and Guster.

the SAO invited all those interested to serve on the team or volunteer for the event. The SAO continues to welcome additional volunteers.

Pre-Concert Festival Added

While the Spring Weekend concert has been an MIT tradition for decades, this will be the first year the weekend will include a pre-concert festival. Those involved in planning the event wanted to reach out to more students, especially those who may not be interested in attending the concert. The specifics of the festival have not been worked out yet, but the event will be free.

"We're trying to make it bigger and better, with more groups involved," Velasquez said.

Initial proposals for the event included replacing the main concert with a large, outdoor musical event. But, the proposals were scrapped because of weather concerns. Instead, they are hoping to attract student groups as well as community organizations and businesses to provide food and entertainment for the festival, which would take place during the day on Saturday, Apr. 25. For example, event organiz-

ers are considering asking student a cappella groups to perform.

"We have the basic idea, but the committee is still open to suggestions," said Student Activities Assistant Director Alicia Erwin.

The Fierce Forever 8 student drag show and Alpha Chi Omega's annual Lip Sync competition will occur in the days prior to the concert, on Apr. 23 and Apr. 24 respectively. Imobillare will also host a break dancing workshop on Friday and then their annual Breakonomics competition on Saturday.

The price of bringing Ben Folds to MIT is \$50,000, which is drawn from Student Life fees paid by students. Funding for the opening act will be limited to a maximum of \$20,000. In addition to paying for the acts, Student Life fees are also going toward paying the cost of the festival, which has not been determined, and subsidizing tickets to the concert. Tickets to attend the concert, which can host up to 4,000 people, will cost \$15 for MIT students and \$25 for MIT affiliates, guests of MIT students, and non-MIT students. Tickets will not be available to the general public. They

go on sale Thursday, March 5, for MIT students only; others will not be able to purchase tickets until after Spring Break.

With the opening act and the festival still being worked out, the Student Activities Office continues to solicit student feedback at sw-ideas@mit.edu.

Dining Administrators Turn Over Consultants' Report to Committee

Blue Ribbon Report, from Page 1

report's completion. The students expected that the report would go directly to the committee. As UA president, Jessop is a member of the Blue Ribbon committee.

Karen A. Nilsson, senior associate dean for residential life, told *The Tech* yesterday that a copy of the consultant's work, slightly revised by the firm after input from administrators, would be sent out to members of the dining committee by Friday morning. Also, although the decision ultimately belongs to Donna M. Denoncourt, associate dean of residential life and chair of the committee, Nilsson said that she "would imagine" that the initial copy of the consultant's work would be sent to the committee at some point.

The Blue Ribbon Committee on Dining was formed in October 2007 with a charge by then-Dean of Student Life Larry G. Benedict to examine the dining situation on campus and make recommendations for changes. It is comprised of students, administrators, and an outside consultant. MIT hired an independent consulting firm specializing in dining, Envision Strategies, to evaluate potential changes to the dining system after conducting a survey and working with the committee.

The consultants' report on potential dining options discussed by the committee was expected to be completed by early January, *The Tech* reported last December. However, the report was delayed, and

the committee waited for the report to be finished before reconvening.

Nilsson confirmed that the consultants submitted the initial copy of their report about a week ago, and certain administrators; including Denoncourt, Nilsson, and Dean for Student Life Costantino Colombo; had a copy. Nilsson said that they were "taking a quick look at it" to ensure "the instructions [to the consultants] were followed."

"If you had a report that came back and did not meet the requirements, you don't want to waste everyone's time," she said.

Nilsson said that, after a preliminary review of the consultants' report, administrators sent the report back to the consultants with comments that led to changes in one portion of the report. The revised report has arrived and will be sent to members of the committee by today.

The goal of the UA's emergency meeting will be to discuss the matter and draft a bill that would address students' concerns about a lack of transparency in dealing with the report, according to Jessop. After seeing an e-mail from Denoncourt last evening saying the consultants' report would soon be posted to the committee's private Stellar site, viewable to members of the committee, Jessop said he was "pleased that the Blue Ribbon Committee has been updated on progress."

As of yesterday evening, the Senate meeting will still be held to discuss the concerns at 7 p.m. Monday, according to Jessop.

SPORTS, CONT.

Rodriguez Admits to Using Banned Drugs In 2003 MVP Season

A-Roid, from Page 12

extension, a Yankees hater), I'm laughing on the inside. ("Serves him and his pinstripes right! That's the karma you get when you ditch the Mariners!") As a fan of baseball, however, I'm disappointed. A-Rod will almost certainly break the record for most career home runs, and although he might be my mortal enemy, at least he didn't cheat — so I thought.

A-Rod himself isn't doing much to help improve the situation. When asked about the reports, he refused to comment and simply deferred the question to the players' union. The union, his agent, and Major League

Baseball have all remained silent as well. Of course, these reports may never be confirmed — they were confidential and supposed to be destroyed after 2003 — but even if Rodriguez refuses to acknowledge the claims and maintains his denial of using steroids, the public's perception of him will be irreparably damaged.

Nonetheless, I'd like to see how this latest baseball scandal plays out. How will the so-emotionally-needy A-Rod react? How will the crowds in New York react? How will the crowds in Fenway react? Mark your calendars — the first Yankees-Red Sox series in Boston is the weekend of April 24th.

Goldstein & Magnuson Take Seventh Place at NorthAms in January

Debate Team, from Page 12

Zimmerman '07 competed under the banner of the University of Maryland, where they now attend graduate school.

Groce and Zimmerman ended the tournament in fifth place while Goldstein and Magnuson finished seventh. In addition, Goldstein received the third place speaker award and Groce the sixth.

The MIT Debate Team will be

attending a number of tournaments this spring in preparation for the American National Championships at Mount Holyoke in April. In addition, after success at Worlds and the Cambridge IV held earlier this year, the team of Goldstein and Magnuson has been invited to the Hobart and William Smith Colleges Round Robin in early April to compete against the top British Parliamentary teams in the world.

Sports Shorts, Continued

Sports Shorts, from Page 12

cut's Taylor Murray on the beam with a 9.300.

Leanna S. Morinishi '12 tied for fifth on the vault with a 9.200. Morinishi also ranked fifth on the bars with a score of 9.075 and tied for 10th on the floor exercise with a count of 9.300.

MIT, 1-1 in dual meet competition, will compete at Ithaca College next Saturday.

—Mike Stoller, DAPER Staff

Third Period Burst Propels Men's Ice Hockey Past Endicott, 6-4

Nicholas D. Sisler '11 scored twice during a 4-0 run to open the third period, as the MIT men's ice hockey team defeated Endicott, 6-4, in New England Collegiate Hockey Association (NECHA) action Saturday. The win moves the Engineers one point past the Gulls in the NECHA American East Standings. The two teams combined for seven goals in the final 20 minutes as MIT withstood a late rally by the Gulls to hold on for the win.

Michael C. Kozlowski G opened the scoring just over seven minutes into the game with help from Justin D. Myers '11 and Ernest I. Park '11. Vladimir Sobes '11 increased MIT's lead just a minute and a half later on a feed from William G. Near '10. A second-period tally by Mike Vacca put Endicott within one heading into the final frame.

Nick R. LaBounty '09 (from Kevin M. Farino '10) found the back of the net just 33 seconds in. Sisler's goals were sandwiched around a Jeremy D. Myers G (from Cory F. Phinney '11) tally, the eventual game winner, all of which came within five and a half minutes. Ryan W. Ballentine '09 assisted on both of the Sisler scores while LaBounty picked up another point as part of the scoring outburst.

The host Gulls gave their best shot at a late comeback, scoring three times in the final 7:12. MIT goaltender Stephen L. Yablonski '11 was able to preserve the win, however, finishing with 29 saves.

The Engineers will conclude their regular season next Saturday, February 14 when they travel to the University of New England. Having already clinched a berth in the upcoming NECHA playoffs, MIT will look to secure a home postseason match-up.

—Greg McKeever, DAPER Staff

Men's Volleyball Sweeps Daniel Webster

In the inaugural meeting between both programs, the MIT men's volleyball team emerged with a 30-11, 30-13, 30-20 victory over Daniel Webster College in a North East Collegiate Volleyball Association (NECVA) New England Division match on Tuesday night. The Engineers registered a balanced performance as they improved to 5-7 on the year and 4-3 in conference action.

Eric R. Reuland '10 paced MIT with eight kills to go along with five aces and five digs. Malcolm K. Bean '11 posted seven kills and two blocks as Randolph Li '09 totaled six kills. Michael Demyttenaere '10 and Garrett L. Winther '11 both registered six kills and two blocks. Philip M. Rogoz '10 and Caine L. Jette '10 completed the blocking corps with two stops as well. Jeremy J. Velazquez '12 notched six digs and five aces while Eugene Jang '09 led the defense with seven digs. Jette dished out a team-high 15 assists in the second game as Rogoz and Timothy R. Lee '11 each added 12 assists in the first and third games, respectively.

Later this week, MIT will host nationally-ranked No. 5 Rivier College on Thursday, Feb. 12.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

Feeling unloved this Valentine's Day? join@tech.mit.edu

SPORTS

Yankees' Rodriguez Earns New Nickname For Himself: A-Roid

By David Zhu
SPORTS EDITOR

First, there was A-Rod, the scrappy kid playing in Seattle who seemed destined for greatness. Next came Pay-Rod, the star shortstop who ditched his team in search of a bigger contract. Not long ago, Joe Torre gave us A-Fraud, the narcissistic, demanding Yankee superstar. Now, the revelations of this past week-end provide another addition to the repertoire of variations on the guy's nickname: A-Roid.

On Saturday evening, *Sports Illustrated* got hold of a leaked report which identified Alex Rodriguez as one of 104 players in Major League Baseball who tested positive for steroids in 2003. The same Alex Rodriguez who was supposed to be the

shining star of baseball, the squeaky-clean prodigy who was supposed to (eventually) cleanse the sport of the bad taste left by the steroids scandal, the player who would surpass Barry Bonds' home run record and not have an asterisk after the number next to his name.

But, all of that came crashing down, just because Alex Rodriguez decided to inject himself with some chemicals — which he probably didn't need anyway. At the time of the failed test, A-Rod was already the highest-paid player in baseball and a near-certain future hall-of-famer. Apparently, he and his big ego didn't think it was enough.

Now, as a Seattle fan (and, by

A-Roid, Page 11

Debate Team Reaches Quarterfinals at World Debate Championship

By Bill Magnuson
TEAM MEMBER

During IAP, the MIT Debate Team reached the quarterfinals of both the World Universities Debating Championship, held in Ireland, and the North American Debate Championships, hosted by Amherst University in Massachusetts. This accomplishment represents MIT's best finish ever at the World Championships, a tournament normally dominated by international competition.

Representing MIT in the field of over 300 teams at the World Championships were Adam J. Goldstein '10 and William H. Magnuson '09. Nine preliminary rounds were held over the course of three days to determine the top thirty-two teams which would advance to elimination rounds. The team from MIT finished the third day in 19th place, placing them in an octofinal round with teams from McGill University, Hart House and the University of Cambridge. Other American teams that reached elimination rounds included Princeton, Harvard, Yale and Stanford Universities.

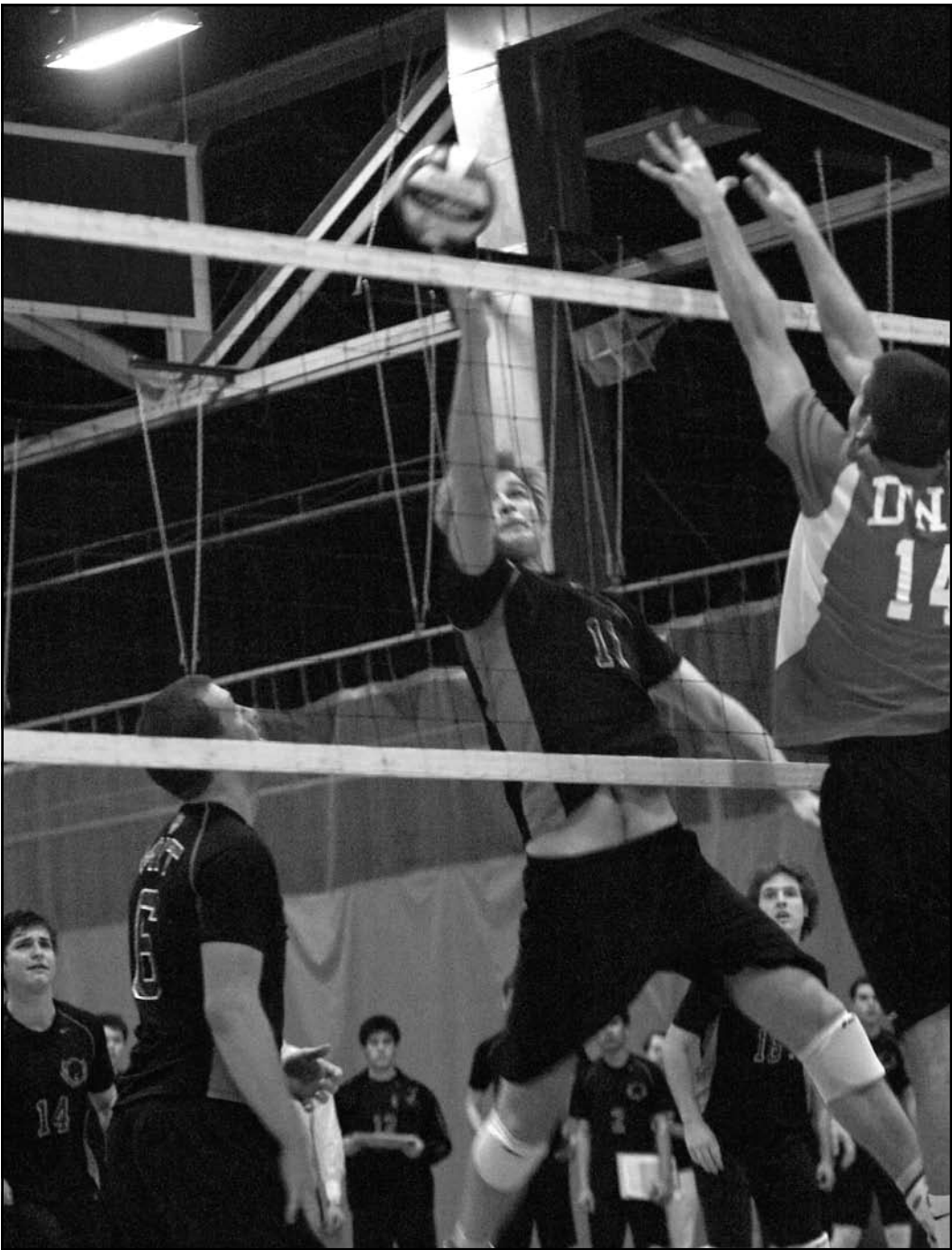
Goldstein and Magnuson were eventually eliminated in quarterfi-

nals after a tense debate of the motion: "This house believes that the international criminal court should prosecute crimes against the democratic process." Other topics for debate included the banning of gambling, allowing soldiers to sue their government for negligence and the arming of local militia in Afghanistan. The final round was a debate on the prohibition of abortion and was won by a team from the University of Oxford.

Shortly after returning home from Ireland, the MIT Debate Team attended the annual border battle between Canada and the United States known as the NorthAms. Using a format which represents a combination of both the American and Canadian parliamentary styles, NorthAms is an exciting challenge for teams from both countries.

MIT was well represented, making up four of the 93 teams in attendance. They included the team of Sharmin Karim '10 and Peter F. McKee '11 as well as the team of Goldstein and Magnuson. In addition, two former members of the MIT Debate Team, Adam Groce '07 and Michelle

Debate Team, Page 11



Michael Demyttenaere '10 slams the ball across the net during a match against Daniel Webster College. The Engineers defeated the Eagles 3-0.

The Tech's Athlete of the Week: Jacqui Wentz '10

On January 25, Jacqueline M. Wentz '10 became the first female athlete in the country to qualify for Division III NCAA Championships in the 5000 meters this year. Her automatic qualifying time of 17:05.2 at the Terrier Invitational broke the MIT record for the distance.

The morning after this performance, Wentz anchored the Distance Medley relay and ran a 5:04.2 for the 1600 meters, setting a personal record.

In light of this accomplishment, Wentz was named the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Athlete of the Week. She is the second Engineer in two years to qualify for Nationals in the 5000 meters.

This season, Wentz has captured first place in a range of distances. At the Bates vs. Colby & MIT meet on January 17, her wins in the 1000 meters (2:59.94) and the mile (5:10.01) set her season off to an impressive start.

On January 31, Wentz's victories in the 800 meters (2:18.45) and the mile (5:09.95) at Bowdoin College were accompanied by her anchor leg in the 4x400 meters, when she held off opponents to help her team earn another event win.

Division III NCAA Championships for Indoor Track will take place in Indiana on March 13-14.

—Maggie Lloyd, Staff Reporter

SCOREBOARD

Men's Basketball	
Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009	
MIT (16-7)	67
Babson College (12-10)	69

Women's Basketball	
Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009	
MIT (12-8)	44
Babson College (15-7)	56

Women's Gymnastics	
Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009	
MIT (3)	175.000
Rhode Island College (4)	169.250
SUNY Brockport (2)	184.550
Southern Connecticut State University (1)	185.950

Men's Ice Hockey	
Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009	
MIT (9-5-1)	6
Endicott College (9-9-2)	4

Pistol	
Sunday, Feb. 8, 2009	
U.S. Naval Academy	6285
MIT (7-5)	6210

Squash	
Friday, Feb. 6, 2009	
MIT (9-6)	0
Colby College (9-8)	9
Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009	
George Washington University (11-2)	9
MIT (9-7)	0
MIT (9-8)	0
Bates College (13-7)	9
MIT (9-9)	0
Bowdoin College (8-12)	9

Men's Volleyball	
Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2009	
Daniel Webster College (2-3)	0
MIT (5-7)	3

Zimmerman's All-Around Effort Good for First Again

Senior standout Julia C. Zimmerman '09 stayed on top of her game, winning the all-around and the vault, and placing second on the bars, as the MIT gymnastics team placed third in a field of four teams. Host Southern Connecticut State University came away with the win (185.950), followed by SUNY Brockport (184.550), the Engineers (175.000), and Rhode Island College (169.250).

Zimmerman, who last week was named ECAC Division III All-Around Athlete of the Week for the second time this season, scored a 37.825 in the all-around, a 9.550 on the vault, and a 9.525 on the bars. She also placed sixth on the floor exercise with a tally of 9.500 and tied for 10th with Southern Connecti-

Sports Shorts, Page 11

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, Feb. 13, 2009
Pistol Collegiate Sectionals 6 p.m., duPont Gymnasium

Saturday, Feb. 14, 2009
Pistol Collegiate Sectionals 9 a.m., duPont Gymnasium
Track and Field Coed Invitational 12 p.m., Johnson Athletic Center
Men's Basketball vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute 1 p.m., Rockwell Cage
Women's Basketball vs. Wellesley College 3 p.m., Rockwell Cage